in other countries is not available." The hon. Member has mentioned that the loss in the refineries in other countries is 4 per cent. I cannot commit right now whether we will be able to reduce the loss to that level or not.

SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA: You can at least say as to how much you can bring it down to. If it is net 4 per cent, how are we going to achieve economy in the 8th Plan? Will that bring down to 4 per cent, 5 per cent?

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: About percentage I cannot commit right now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Inquiry into the accident of a Dormier aircraft of Vayudoot

*103. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the inquiry ordered into the accident involving a Dormier 228 aircraft of Vayudoot which took place on the 23rd December, 1989 has still not been completed;

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be completed;

(c) whether any compensation has been paid to the next of kin of the victims; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN): (a) and (b) Following the stay granted by the Hon'ble Bombay High Court on 6.8.90 prohibiting continuous of proceedings before the Court of Inquiry investigating the accident, the Government set up a Committee of Inquiry to inquire into the accident. The Committee of Inquiry is likely to submit its report by 30.3.91.

(c) and (d) Compensation has been paid to the families of all the deceased passengers. In addition, employment has been provided to the relatives of three of deceased passengers.

Amount due under DPEA

*104. SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN:

CHOWDHARY HARI SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 398 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd January, 1991 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for the last more than two years, huge amount is due from each company under the Drug Prices Equalisation Account;

(b) when was the amount communiated to each company and since when the amount is due from each;

(c) whether his Ministry has worked out any interest on the amount due;

(d) if so, what is the amount of interest calculated in each case and the period involved; and

(e) the action taken under provision of Section 7-A of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to recover the amounts as arrears of land revenue?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) A statement showing the latest amount due from various companies on a tentative basis is attached. (*See* Appendix CLVII, Annexure No. 13). The amounts were communicated to

the companies from time to time during the last about 3 years.

(c) to (e) The question of imposing interest at the stipulated rate and recovering the amount along-with the interest as arrears of land revenue by referring the matter to the Collector concerned is under active consideration.

Down stream Naphtha Cracker Units at Visakhapatnam

*106. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh wrote a letter on the 7th January, 1991 for setting up of Naphtha Cracker Down Stream Units at Visakhapatnam; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the action taken by the Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Chief Minister in his letter urged early clearance to the down stream units of the naphtha cracker at Visakhapatnam.

(b) Proposals for setting up of down stream units of the Naphtha cracker at Visakhapatnam are under process.

Promotion of Hindi through Roman Script

*107. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are examining the feasibility of promoting the study of Hindi in Roman script for the benefit of the people in the non-Hindi speaking States; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAJMANGAL PANDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Dangerous effects of Pesticides used in Agriculture

*109. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a recent WHO publication entitled Public Health impact of Pesticides used in Agriculture; and

(b) whether Government would keep in view the dangerous effects of pesticides on public health while evolving a National Pesticides Policy?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND *CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAO* BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Existing legislations namely. Insecticides Act, 1968, Prevention of Food Adulteration, Act, 1954 and the Rules framed thereunder provide the legal framework for regulating the use of pesticides. The use of pesticides is regulated under these laws fully keeping in view public health considerations.

Indigenous Oil Production

*111. SHRI G. G. SWELL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the indigenous oil production at present vis-a-vis our current requirement;

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of exploratory wells drilled are smaller in size as compared to those in China and other countries;